

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A cosmetic material comprising a crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or a crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt having a particle size of 0.1 to 100 μm and an average particle size of 1 to 50 μm .

Claim 2 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt is contained in an amount of 0.001 to 20% by mass.

Claim 3 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt are produced by exposing at least one solution selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solution, a methyl alcohol solution and an ethyl alcohol solution of poly- γ -glutamic acid or the poly- γ -glutamic acid salt which contain poly- γ -glutamic acid in an amount of 2 to 30% by mass, to radiation for crosslinking thereof.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said radiation is γ -ray or electron beam.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said cosmetic material is used as hair cosmetic materials, skin cosmetic materials or nail cosmetic materials.

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Claim 6 (Previously presented): A cosmetic material comprising an oiliness agent selected from the group consisting of vegetable oils, higher alcohols or esters thereof, higher fatty esters and liquid paraffins, and a crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or a crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt as an oil dispersion modifier, wherein said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a particle size of 0.1 to 100 μm and an average particle size of 1 to 50 μm .

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said oiliness agent is contained in an amount of 0.01 to 80% by mass, and said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt are contained in an amount of 0.1 to 30% by mass.

Claim 9 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt are produced by exposing at least one solution selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solution, a methyl alcohol solution and an ethyl alcohol solution of poly- γ -glutamic acid or the poly- γ -glutamic acid salt which contain poly- γ -glutamic acid in an amount of 1 to 30% by mass, to radiation for crosslinking thereof.

Claim 10 (Original): The cosmetic material according to claim 9, wherein said radiation is γ -ray or electron beam.

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Claim 11 (Previously presented): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said cosmetic material is used as hair cosmetic materials, skin cosmetic materials or nail cosmetic materials.

Claim 12 (New): The cosmetic material according to claim 1, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a gelation rate of 20 to 100 %.

Claim 13 (New): The cosmetic material according to claim 12, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a gelation rate of 40 to 100 %.

Claim 14 (New): The cosmetic material according to claim 13, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a gelation rate of 60 to 100 %.

Claim 15 (New): The cosmetic material according to claim 6, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a gelation rate of 20 to 100 %.

Claim 16 (New): The cosmetic material according to claim 15, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a gelation rate of 40 to 100 %.

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Claim 17 (New): The cosmetic material according to claim 16, wherein said crosslinked product of poly- γ -glutamic acid and/or said crosslinked product of a poly- γ -glutamic acid salt has a gelation rate of 60 to 100 %.